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### **REMARKS**

The Office Action indicated Claims 7-15, 17-28 and 47-71 would be allowed if rewritten in independent form. Applicant has redrafted the allowable subject matter while changing the "means for" elements of the sixth paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §112 to "units."

Accordingly, Claim 7 has been redrafted to Claim 76 and is believed to present the allowed subject matter, along with dependent Claims 8-15 now redrafted as Claims 77-84.

Claim 17 has been rewritten in independent form as Claim 85 and it is believed allowable along with dependent Claims 18-28 now redrafted as Claims 86-96.

Finally, Claim 42 has been amended as new Claim 97 and is now believed to address the already allowable subject matter indicated in the Office Action. In this regard, Claim 47 has been further amended as new Claim 102 and is believed to set forth allowed subject matter along with the remaining Claims 48-71 now redrafted as Claims 103-126.

The Office Action rejected claims 42-46 as being completely anticipated by the *Galbi* US Patent No. 5,649,029 under 35 USC §102.

The Office Action stated that *Galbi* taught an audio/video decoder that would receive a data stream of compressed audio/video (AV) data, decode the inputted stream data and output the decoded data. More specifically, the Office Action noted a signal processing unit 140 for decoding the audio and video data and a CPU 150 to control the amount of time the signal processing unit 140 spends for decoding audio and video data. See Column 3, lines 61-65.

The Office Action cited the feature of reading the decoded audio data and the decoded video data from a memory and outputting the data by referring to Column 2, lines 5-9. However, this portion of the *Galbi* specification teaches a butterfly unit which, with a multiply and accumulate unit, together can alternately decode video data and audio data. The *Galbi* reference

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teaches that with audio decoding the number of multiplies as required for matrixing can be reduced. The specification and drawings of the *Galbi* reference goes into the details of the specific decoding and processing for both the MPEG audio data frames and video data frames.

As can be determined from the supporting *Galbi* claims that define the teaching of the invention, the audio/video decoder alternately writes a block of audio data into the internal memory then writes a block of video data to the internal memory. The signal processing unit can alternately decode the audio data from the internal memory then decode the video data from the internal memory. As can be appreciated, the four separate memory units that comprise the internal memory are then sequentially used with the respective first through fourth memory units each containing data that is operative in respectively decoding the audio data and the video data.

Referring to Claim 97, our media processing apparatus performs a decoding of the compressed audio data in parallel with the decoding of the compressed video data. In addition, the decoding of the compressed video data, which requires a large amount of calculations and a variety of processes, is shared by a sequential processing unit and routine processing unit to improve the processing efficiency for decoding the compressed video data. However, the cited *Galbi* reference only discloses, under the direction of the CPU 150 and SPU 140, that the compressed audio data and compressed video data are decoded alternately. The *Galbi* reference neither discloses nor suggests any technology for sharing the decoding process of the compressed video data and accordingly fails to provide the advantageous effect of improving the decoding process as recited in our present claims.

The present invention differs from the *Galbi* reference in that it is able to perform (1) decoding of the compressed audio data in parallel with decoding of the compressed video data and (2) the decoding process of the compressed video data is shared.

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Claim 97 has been amended to indicate that an input/output processing unit performs an input/output processing in which a plurality of input/output-related tasks, including a task for storing a data stream asynchronously inputted, due to an external factor in a memory, are executed and that the plurality of input/output-related tasks are switched at predetermined intervals. With a structure in which it executes a plurality of input/output-related tasks by switching them at predetermined intervals, the media processing apparatus of Claim 97 can have reduced delays to the various asynchronous input/output requests.

In comparison, the *Galbi* reference discloses that its CPU 150 controls the percentage of time the SPU 140 spends decoding audio data and video data, and that under the direction of CPU 150, memory controller 180 transfers compressed audio or video data to a decoder FIFO 125 for decoding of an audio data frame or a video data frame by SPU 140.

The present invention differs from the *Galbi* reference in that it is able to switch a plurality of input/output-related tasks at predetermined intervals to have reduced delays to the various asynchronous input/output requests.

These amendments are supported by Paragraphs [0190], [0205]-[0219] in the specification of US Application No. 2002/0041626 and no new matter has been added.

For the above stated reasons, amended Claim 97 is neither anticipated nor rendered obvious from the *Galbi* reference, and therefore is patentable. Claims 98-101 should also be allowable since they were objected to due to their dependency on a rejected base claim.

Claim 102 depends on Claim 97 and identifies a plurality of input/output-related tasks, recited in Claim 97. This amendment is, as is the case with the amendments to Claim 97 described above, are supported by Paragraphs [0190], [0205]-[0219] in the specification of US Application No. 2002/0041626.

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Claim 102 was objected to due to its dependency on the rejected base claim, Claim 42. We have amended Claim 42 as Claim 97 to overcome the rejection as described above and accordingly believe that Claim 102, as well as claims 103-126 are patentable.

In view of the indication of allowable subject matter, the above remarks and the present status of the claims, it is believed the case is now in condition for allowance and an early notification of the same is requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference will help further the prosecution of the case, the undersigned attorney can be reached at the listed telephone number.

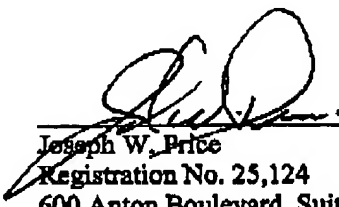
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to the USPTO at 571-273-8300 on March 8, 2006.

Very truly yours,

SNELL & WILMER L.L.P.

By: Sharon Farnus  
Sharon Farnus  
Signature

Dated: March 8, 2006

  
Joseph W. Price  
Registration No. 25,124  
600 Anton Boulevard, Suite 1400  
Costa Mesa, California 92626-7689  
Telephone: (714) 427-7420  
Facsimile: (714) 427-7799